

**American Embassy
Lima, Peru**

Additional Information for Parents of US Citizens Born Abroad

All of the information provided in this document is current as of March 2008.

Additional Registration Requirements

Your US citizen child is not required to have his or her birth registered with any state, county, or municipal authority in the United States.

Claims to Peruvian Citizenship

Children born in Peru generally have a claim to the Peruvian citizenship. Therefore, parents should check with Migraciones del Peru, the Peruvian Immigration Authority, to have their child's citizenship status clarified. The contact information for Migraciones del Peru is:

Address Prolongación España 734
Breña – Lima 5

Telephone 431-4602

The US Government recognizes that dual nationality exists but does not encourage it as a matter of policy because of the problems it may cause. Use of a foreign passport does not endanger US citizenship. US citizens, including dual nationals, must use a US passport to enter and leave the United States.

Peruvian Immigration Requirements

Children born in Peru of U.S. citizen parents are considered to be Peruvian citizens and must obtain Peruvian passports in order to depart Peru. It is recommended that parents contact Migraciones del Peru to complete any required documentation in order to avoid delays at the airport. (Diplomats are exempt from this requirement.)

In an effort to prevent international child abduction, many governments, including Peru's, enforce specific rules at entry/exit points. These often include requiring documentary evidence of relationship and permission for a child's travel from the parent(s) or legal guardian not present. Peru's specific procedures mandate that minors (under 18) who are citizens or residents of Peru and who are traveling alone, with one parent, or with a third party, must present a notarized authorization from the absent parent(s) or legal guardian(s), specifically granting permission to travel alone, with one parent or guardian, or with a third party. When a parent is deceased, a notarized copy of the death certificate is required in lieu of the authorization. If documents are prepared in the United States, the authorization and the birth certificate must be translated into Spanish, notarized, and authenticated by the Peruvian Embassy or Consulate in the United States. If documents are prepared in Peru, only notarization by a Peruvian notary is required. These requirements do not apply to children who enter Peru on U.S. passports as tourists unless they hold dual U.S.-Peruvian citizenship.

While there is no similar US government requirement, such a document may be useful in answering questions that may arise during travel.

How to Sign Your Child's Passport

Parents are required to sign the passports of their children under age 14. Please follow this procedure:

1. Write your child's name in full on the signature line of the passport. The signature line is found on the page above the page that contains the biographic information and picture of your child.
2. Either the mother OR the father of the child should sign after the child's name with his or her OWN signature.
3. After the signature, the signing parent should write "mother" or "father" in parenthesis.

Your child's passport is not valid until it has been signed.

Obtaining a Social Security Number

The best time to apply for a Social Security number for your child is when you come to pick up the new passport and Consular Report of Birth. We will submit the application to the Social Security Administration for you, and they will send the card to you by mail. In order to receive the new social security card with minimal delay, we need to submit the following documentation:

1. Form SS-5-FS, Application for a Social Security Card
2. Copy of child's passport
3. Copy of Consular Report of Birth
4. Copy of American citizen parent's passport (only 1 passport required)
5. Copy of local birth certificate

Please be sure to bring the local birth certificate and the American citizen parent's passport when you come to pick up the new passport and Report of Birth. The Embassy can provide you with Form SS-5FS, or you can access online it at <http://www.ssa.gov/online/ss-5fs.pdf>. A version of this form in Spanish is available at <http://www.ssa.gov/online/ss-5sp.pdf>. We will submit the application as soon as we receive the required documentation.

The Social Security Administration will mail your child's card to the address you write on the form. The card will take about 6-8 weeks to arrive.

Additional Copies of your Consular Report of Birth Abroad

The approved Consular Report of Birth, Form FS-240, is evidence that your child acquired United States Citizenship at birth. This form is known as a basic citizenship document. A copy of the report is sent to the Passport Office, Department of State together with your application for a Consular Report of Birth and your personal documents, as required by law.

Duplicate copies of the FS-240 may NOT be issued. Parents may however obtain a "Certificate of Report of Birth" (Form DS-1350). This document is issued only from the Department of State and can be provided to parents in multiple copies upon payment of the appropriate fees (\$30.00), as determined by the current Schedule of Fees (22 CFR 22.1). Written requests should include the information noted in numbers 1-6 below.

If you lose your Form FS-240 or Form DS-1350, or require additional copies, please do not write this office, as we do not maintain duplicate records. Copies of either form may be obtained by writing to:

Vital Records Section
Passport Services
1111 19th Street, NW, Suite 510
Washington, D.C. 20522-1705

A **written** request must be notarized and must include a copy of valid photo identification of the requester. The written request must include:

1. Full name of child at birth (plus any adoptive names)
2. Date and place of birth
3. Names of parents
4. Serial number, if known, of the FS-240 (on those issued after November 1, 1990)
5. Any available passport information
6. Signature of requester
7. Notary's seal

Note: For Panama Canal Zone (PCZ) birth certificates include only items (1) through (3).

The fee for an FS-240 is \$30. The fees for DS-1350 and PCZ certificates are \$30 for the first copy, \$20 each additional copy. Make check or bank draft drawn on a bank in the United States, or money order, payable to the "Department of State." The Department will assume no responsibility for cash lost in the mail. Documents will be provided to the person who is the subject of the Report of Birth, the subject's parents, the subject's legal guardian, authorized government agency, or a person who submits written authorization from the subject of the Report of Birth.

The fee may be paid by check or money order made payable to "Passport Services" and must accompany the request for the document. To allow time for the Consular Report of Birth to be filed at the Department of State, parents should wait 6 months after the Report is issued to apply for a DS-1350.